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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent of Suzuki et al.	:	
Patent No. 6,561,716	:	
Issue Date: May 13, 2003	:	ON PETITION
Application No. 09/762,319	:	
Filed: February 6, 2001	:	
Attorney Docket No. M1596-232/ 4400/800-001	:	

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(e), filed July 27, 2011 and supplemented on October 17, 2011 and July 9, 2012, to accept the unavoidably delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The patent issued May 13, 2003. The 3 ½ year maintenance fee could have been paid from May 13, 2006 through November 13, 2006, or with a surcharge during the period from November 14, 2006 through May 13, 2007. The 3 ½ year maintenance fee was not timely paid. Accordingly, the patent expired on May 14, 2007.

Petitioner has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Director that the delay in timely paying the 3 ½ year maintenance fee was unavoidable.

The 3 ½ year maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision. The fees are current. It is noted petitioner authorized the Office to collect the 7 ½ year maintenance fee, as well as the 3 ½ year maintenance fee and the \$700.00 surcharge on April 5, 2011. The fees were collected on May 27, 2011.

A courtesy copy of the decision will be mailed to the address listed on the petition. However, petitioner will not receive future correspondence related to maintenance fees for the patent unless a "Fee Address" Indication Form (see PTO/SB/47) and Request for Customer Number (see PTO/SB/125).

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3230.

The patent file is being forwarded to Files Repository.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Shirene Willis Brantley".

Shirene Willis Brantley
Senior Petitions Attorney
Office of Petitions

CC: Leason Ellis LLP
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